## IN THE CLAIM

- 1. (original) In a disc drive comprising at least one disc having a plurality of addressable sectors arranged in a plurality of tracks on a surface of the disc, the sectors being categorised into zones such that data is capable of being written to and read from different zones at different rates, a method of storing information on defective sectors comprising steps of:
  - (a) sorting defective sectors by zone;
  - (b) defining a cluster comprising at least one defective sector;
  - (c) selecting one sector from the cluster to be a reference sector;
  - (d) defining parameters with reference to the reference sector, the parameters describing the shape and size of the cluster;
  - (e) storing the parameters with an address of the reference sector and
  - (f) performing the steps (b) to (e) separately for each zone.
- 2. (original) A method of Claim I wherein the defining step (b) further comprises a step of including at least one non-defective sector in the cluster.
- 3. (original) A method of Claim 1 wherein the selecting step (c) includes selecting the sector with the smallest address to be the reference sector.
- 4. (original) A method of Claim 1 wherein the selecting step (c) includes selecting the sector with the largest address to be the reference sector.
- 5. (original) A method of Claim 1 wherein the defining step (d) further includes defining a scratch parameter characterizing the number of tracks covered by the cluster.
- 6. (original) A method of Claim 1 wherein the defining step (d) further includes defining a span parameter characterizing the number of sectors covered by the cluster along each track.

7. (currently amended) A method of Claim I wherein the defining step (d) further includes defining an angle parameter characterizing the <u>angluar angular</u> deviation of a side of the cluster from a reference line intersecting the reference sector.

8. (original) A method of Claim 1 further comprising defining a radial line to be the reference line.

9. (new) A method comprising steps of:
(a) defining a cluster comprising at least one defective location;
(b) selecting one location from the cluster to be a reference location;
(c) defining parameters with reference to the reference location; and
(d) storing the parameters with an address of the reference location.
10. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein the parameters are stored in a storage apparatus.
11. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein the locations are sectors.
12. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising the steps of:
sorting a plurality of defective locations into zones; and
performing steps a-d for each zone.
·
13. (new) A method comprising the steps of:
defining a cluster comprising at least one defective sector;
defining parameters that describe the shape and size of the cluster;
storing the parameters in a peripheral device